

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

### SARL NEWS SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 2004

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za), on packet bulletin boards and on echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

### SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we have to announce that Willie Moller, ZS6MOL, passed away on 27 September after a short illness, at the age of 78 years. The Memorial service was held on Saturday 2 October in Bronkhorstspuit. Our sincerest condolence to his relatives and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today.

### WORLD SPACE WEEK

#### SARL TO PRESENT TWO EVENTS THIS WEEK

#### PRESIDENT'S NET NEXT SUNDAY

#### RAE DATE ANNOUNCED

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office, which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00, at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs on the web site of the SARL, which is [www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp) not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

You are listening to ZS6SRL.

The news follows in detail.

### WORLD SPACE WEEK

From the United States to Djibouti, from Antarctica to Russia, World Space Week is celebrated annually in more than 50 nations, on all seven continents. It serves to celebrate the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of human condition. Declared in 1999 by the UN General Assembly, World Space Week marks the anniversary of two great milestones of humanity's expansion into space: 4 October 1957 – Date of the launch into space of the first man-made Earth satellite, SPUTNIK I, thus opening the way for more space

exploration; 10 October 1967 – Date of the entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

In South Africa World Space Week is celebrated with three amateur radio events. Celebrate World Space Week with SA AMSAT by participating in a contest to make as many contacts as possible via OSCAR51 during the week 4 - 10 October.

The contest has three categories: A.1 Fixed satellite station with satellite antennas with elevation and AZ controls; A.2 Fixed satellite station with simple VHF antennas; B. Hand-held.

Submit logs to SA AMSAT, PO Box 90438, Garsfontein, 0042, before 20 October 2004 or email to [saamsat@intekom.co.za](mailto:saamsat@intekom.co.za). Logs must include the following: date, time of contact, call sign, name and QTH of station worked as well as a description of your station.

Optionally a picture of yourself if available. Full details as well as AO51 passes can be found on [www.amsatsa.org.za](http://www.amsatsa.org.za).

#### SARL TO PRESENT TWO EVENTS THIS WEEK

The SARL is presenting two events the first, Radio Technology in Action lecture, and the second, Intecnet. The RTA lecture will take place on Saturday 9 October at the SARL National Amateur Radio Centre in Roodepoort. Hal Lund, ZS6WB, and Pine Pienaar, ZS6OB, will be talking about and demonstrating various new software driven techniques for VHF and UHF weak signal communication such as meteor scatter and EME. The event starts at 09:30 with registration and refreshments and will end at 12:00 with light snacks and more time for informal discussion. The registration of R20 is payable at the door which includes taking part in a draw for three attendance prizes of which one is an ARRL Antenna Handbook. To assist with catering please drop an email to [rta@sarl.org.za](mailto:rta@sarl.org.za). Full details are also available from [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za).

#### PRESIDENT'S NET

World Space week activities will be concluded with the President's Net on Sunday 10 October at 19:15 and Intecnet at 20:00 featuring a discussion on APRS with Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, the father of APRS. Ever since the beginnings of packet radio in the late seventies, Bob wrote software that combined the flexibility of packet radio with the dynamics of real-time events. Bob's years of toiling at a variety of computer boards came to a climax when he completed developing the first version of APRS Dos in 1992.

Join Bob next Sunday evening for an in-depth discussion on APRS, the beginnings, the ins and outs and its satellite application.

Club stations have until 7 October to confirm their participation by sending details of the telephone number to be connected and coverage information of the repeater to be linked to [armi@sarl.org.za](mailto:armi@sarl.org.za)

#### WINNER IN MAY RAE ANNOUNCED

The Council of the SARL takes pleasure in announcing the top candidate in the May RAE. The recipient of the Kenwood TH-F7 dual band handradio, sponsored by Global Communications, the Kenwood distributors, is R T Gouws of the Winelands Amateur Radio Club. Well done RT!

#### UPDATING OF SARL AND ICASA DATABASES

In previous bulletins, mention was made that the SARL has obtained a copy of the amateur database from ICASA. There are several mistakes and lack of information. Council thus request all club chairman and/or custodians to update their records ASAP, (on or before 31 October 2004) on the available application/update form on the SARL website. This form can be completed in electronic form and emailed, or printed out and mailed to the SARL. All repeaters, digipeaters, links, BBS's, APRS digipeaters and other unattended stations have to be licensed. The information will then be correlated, so please do fill in the form comprehensively. Your co-operation in this matter is appreciated. The form will also be available on packet. For further information, contact Kobus Conradie, ZR6D, Tel. 082-88-11164, or by email, kobus@letsplayradio.co.za.

#### CLOSING DATE FOR RA EXAMINATION

The next RAE will take place on Thursday 18 November. Entries for this examination close on 14 October. No late entries will be accepted. Entries received after this date will be automatically left over till the next RAE in 2005.

Entries can be done online at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za).

An entry form can also be downloaded from the SARL web page and after completion faxed to the SARL on 011-675-2793.

You can also phone the SARL office at 011-675-2393 and request that an entry form be faxed or posted to you.

#### OMISSION OF AMATEUR ALLOCATIONS

The SARL president, Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, received a communication from ICASA that the 2,4 and 5,6 GHz allocations for amateurs had been accidentally omitted from the last publication of the band plan in the Government Gazette. This will be rectified in the next band plan publication in the Government Gazette.

#### RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS EXTENDED

One More week to nominate for the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Awards.

The closing date for the Radio Amateur of the Year Awards has been extended by one week to accommodate late entries. The final closing date is Monday 11 October 2004.

To date several nominations have been received for the Radio Amateur of the Year Award, but only one for the junior category.

Is there a young person in your club that is involved in promoting amateur radio or doing some development work? Here is the chance to reward him or her with the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Award. The Young Radio Amateur of the Year Award has not been awarded for the past two years because of lack of qualifying nominations. The nominee must be under 25 years of age and have made a contribution to the development of Amateur Radio, be it technical or organisational. Full details including a nomination form appear on the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust Website at [www.amateurradio.org.za](http://www.amateurradio.org.za).

Nominations for the Radio Amateur and Young Radio Amateur of the Year award now close on 11 October. Here is your last chance to reward someone for his or her contribution to Amateur Radio.

#### SARL 80 m QSO PARTY

The second leg of the SARL 80-metre QSO Party will be held on Thursday evening 7 October 2004. The QSO party starts at 19:00 CAT and ends 3 hours later with phone activity on the segment 3,600 to 3,650 MHz.

The exchange is call sign, RS signal report, serial number commencing with 001 and your Grid Locator or QTH. Ten points are scored for every contact with a South African station and fifteen points are scored for every contact with a station outside South Africa.

The address for the log submissions is The Contest Committee, 17 Brownlee Place, Bluff, 4052 or by e-mail to [zs5lp@sharksden.co.za](mailto:zs5lp@sharksden.co.za)

#### CQ HOUKOERS

The annual CQ Houkoers is to be held on Saturday 16 October.

Amateurs willing to help kommando's and have not yet obtained an educational station license can contact Louis, ZR6ABC, on [llk@mweb.co.za](mailto:llk@mweb.co.za) or telephone 012 345 3275 after hours, to get the necessary call sign etc.

#### HOBBY SHOW AT QUEENSWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Magalies Radioamateurklub will erect an educational amateur station at the Queenswood Primary School in Pretoria on 8 October when the school's hobby show takes place. The station will operate on the following bands: 2 meter voice, 2 meter weather images and 40 meter voice. The operation will be from 14:00 till 21:00. The SW's of amateurs will also exhibit their hobbies such as art needle work, knitting and candles. Listen for ZS6MRK and talk to us so that the learners will have an opportunity to talk over amateur radio.

#### PROPAGATION REPORT

Kobus, ZS6KOB, said that as was the case the previous week, this past week was once again noted for unpredictable good and bad conditions. It is once again proof that sunspot numbers are not the alpha and omega of propagation conditions. At times really good opportunities existed for working DX. During late afternoons conditions remained constantly good for working to the East.

Local conditions between North and South were also very good at times. An interesting tendency is that the lower frequencies of the 20 meter band are being used more often, ie. below 14,200.

The sunspot number has stabilised as predicted but has not started to increase-possibly over the weekend. The sunspot number was 34,9 on Thursday compared to last week's 35,3. The week was also characterised by more active areas on the sun than last week.

There were no corona openings directed towards earth. Quiet periods are expected till 2 October. In the USA the best conditions occurred during sunrise and sunset periods. Studies confirm that the so-called 27 day cycle of maxima (and minima) is very reliable.

#### DIARY OF EVENTS

9 October RTA-lecture on new VHF modes at the NARC; 10 October President's net and Intecnet at 19:15 and 20:00 16 October CQ Houkoers; 16-17 October 47th Jamboree on the air. Participating stations must register their stations as educational stations with the SARL and contact Dave Gemmell at PO Box 77, Irene, 0062 and telephone 012 667-2153 or e-mail davegemmell@bmknnet.co.za for participation cards. Consult [www.scout.org/jota](http://www.scout.org/jota) or [www.scout.org/joti](http://www.scout.org/joti) for the latest information; 18 November Next RAE examination. Closing date for entries 14 October. Contributions to the fund initiated by the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust for the SARL's IARU membership are still welcome; Please submit your articles for Radio ZS to [radiozs@sarl.org.za](mailto:radiozs@sarl.org.za); Please send A5 size self addressed envelopes with postage stamps to cover 200 g (R4,35) to the NARC to enable delivery of your QSL cards to you.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 815, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban 145,750 MHz in Pretoria and 438,800 in the Sandton area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN, and read by .....from..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX